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Ref. No.: 12221-069  
P143-US



Kimberly Snodgrass

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 10/027,476  
Applicant : Chen  
Filed : December 21, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 3729  
Examiner : Donghai D. Nguyen

Confirmation No. 9965

Docket No. : 276440-21

Commissioner for Patents  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Listed on an attached Form PTO/SB/08A is information known to applicant(s).

The Examiner is requested to initial and return the attached Form PTO/SB/08A in accordance with MPEP §609. This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☐ This statement qualifies under 37 C.F.R. §1.97, subsection (b) because (check all that apply):

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date (other than the filing date of a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d))  
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage  
-- OR --
- ☐ (3) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action on the merits  
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mail date of the first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

01/28/2004 HROCHA1 00000039 10027476

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☒ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). If this statement is being filed after the latest of: (1) three months beyond the filing date of a national application; (2) three months beyond the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; (3) the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, or (4) the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, but before the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, then:

☐ a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **or**

☒ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d). If this statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of a final office action under §1.113, a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, but before payment of the issue fee, then:

A. a statement as specified in §1.97(e) is provided below; **and**

B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

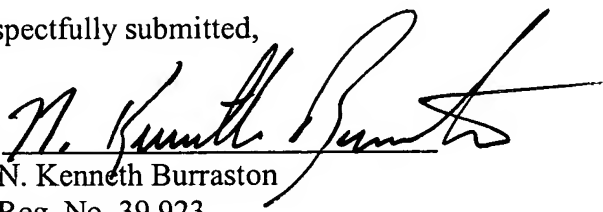
*Fee:*

☐ No fee is due.

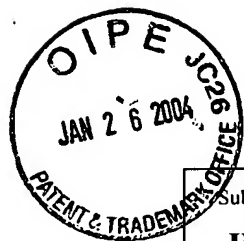
☒ A check in the amount of \$180.00 for the above-identified fee(s) is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 23, 2004

By   
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12221-069  
P143-US

Modified Form PTO/SB/08A

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (use as many sheets as necessary)				<i>Complete If Known</i>	
				Application Number	10/027,476
				Filing Date	December 21, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Chen et al.
				Group Art Unit	3729
Examiner Name	D. Nguyen				
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket No.	276440-21

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup>			
	1.	5476211		Kandros	12/19/1995	
	2.	5917707		Kandros et al.	6/29/1999	
	3.	6150186		Chen et al.	11/21/2000	
	4.	6184053		Eldridge et al.	2/6/2001	
	5.	6255126		Mathieu et al.	7/3/2001	
	6.	6268015		Mathieu et al.	7/31/2001	
	7.	6336269		Eldridge et al.	1/8/2002	
	8.	6482013		Eldridge et al.	11/19/2002	
	9.	6672875		Mathieu et al.	1/6/2004	
	10.	20010044225		Eldridge et al.	11/22/2001	
	11.	20020055282		Eldridge et al.	5/9/2002	
	12.	20020164893		Mathieu et al.	11/7/2002	
	13.	20030099737		Eldridge et al.	5/29/2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date	Relevant Portions	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>				
	14.	WO	98/52224	A1	Pedersen et al.	11/19/1998		
	15.	WO	02/063682	A2	Eldridge et al.	8/15/2002		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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